

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and entry of the foregoing Amendment. The amendment cancels the rejected claims and places the subject matter of the allowable dependent claims in proper form for their allowance.

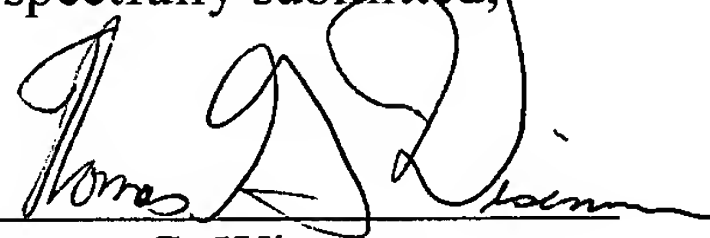
The subject matter of claims 4, 7 and 12 was indicated to be allowable. These claims were objected to as being based, directly or indirectly, on rejected claims. The amendment addresses the objection and deals with matters of form.

Upon entry of the amendment, Claims 3-5, 7-8 and 10-12 are before the Examiner. Claims 3 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 12, which subject matter was indicated to be allowable. Claim 4, which was indicated to be allowable, has been amended so that it is an independent claim. The subject matter of claim 3 has been included in the body of this claim. Claims 10-12 are cancelled. Claims 1 and 2, 6, 9 were previously cancelled. No amendment was needed for claim 7 since it depended on claim 4. Claims 5 and 8 depend on amended claim 3 and should be allowable for the same reasons as claim 12.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner not find the Application to be in allowable condition or believe that a conference would be of value in expediting the prosecution of the Application, Applicants request that the Examiner telephone the undersigned Counsel to discuss the case and afford Applicants an opportunity to submit any Supplemental Amendment that might advance prosecution and place the Application in allowable condition.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas G. Wiseman', written over a horizontal line.

Thomas G. Wiseman
(Registration No. 35,046)

VENABLE
Post Office Box 34385
Washington, DC 20043-9998
Telephone: (202) 344-4800
Direct dial: (202) 344-4614
Telefax: (202) 344-8300

DC2-DOCS1-775005v1